

THE THEATRE TO-DAY

THE COLUMBIA.
Henry Miller, in "The Hawk".....At 2:15 and 8:15
THE NATIONAL.
Mila Gene.....At 8:15
CHASE'S.
Polite Vaudeville.....At 2:15 and 8:15
THE ACADEMY.
"The Stampede".....At 2:15 and 8:15
THE GAYETY.
Burlesque.....At 2:15 and 8:15
THE LYCEUM.
Burlesque.....At 2:15 and 8:15
THE CASINO.
Vaudeville and Pictorial.....Continuous
THE COSMOS.
Vaudeville and Pictorial.....Continuous
THE MAJESTIC.
Vaudeville and Pictorial.....Continuous
THE AVENUE GRAND.
Vaudeville and Pictorial.....Continuous
THE PLAZA.
Moving Pictures.....Continuous
THE VIRGINIA.
Moving Pictures.....Continuous
THE ALHAMBRA.
Moving Pictures.....Continuous

The Belasco.
"Marriage à la Carte" is the title of a new musical comedy by C. M. S. McLellan and Ivan Caryll, which is to be seen at the Belasco Theater Christmas week, starting with a matinee on Monday, with Emmy Wehlen and Harry Connor at the head of its cast of sixty. As McLellan was author of "The Belle of New York," "The Telephone Girl," and "An American Beauty," and Caryll the composer of "The Torador," "The Duchess of Dantzic," and "The Spring Chicken," there is every probability that the managerial promise of a brilliant attraction will be carried out to the letter. No one wrote a more sparkling book than McLellan at his best, and few have the same knack of introducing catchy hits into melodies that deserve classification as good music as has Ivan Caryll, who for so many years has been London's best known composer. The production of "Marriage à la Carte" is practically a new departure for the firm of Liebler & Co., its producers. With the exception of "The Vanderbilt Cup," the firm has never had anything to do with a light musical attraction. It lists among its attractions, however, the Bessie Abbott Opera Company, which has established itself as one of the great musical organizations of America, so that its facilities for handling musical attractions are of the very best.

The National.
F. Ziegfeld, Jr.'s, latest musical revue, "Polka of 1910," is to be presented at the New National Theater next (Christmas) week. Harry B. Smith wrote the book, while Gus Edwards and numerous others supplied the tuneful music. The work is in three acts and thirteen scenes. In addition to a chorus, described as "twenty-five of the most beautiful merrymakers include Bickel and Watson, Bert Williams, Bobby North, Billie Reeves, W. Wania, imperial Russian dancer, Harry Piller, William C. Schrode, Quigg and Nickerson, Peter Swift, Max Schenck, Blanche Brice, Shirley Kellogg, Lillian St. Clair, Vera Maxwell, Arline Raley, Margaret Morris, Fawn Conway, Florence Gardner, Lottie Vernon, Betty Neil, Violet Jewell, Belconia, Lydia Scott, and Miss Lillian Lorraine. Besides the Wednesday and Saturday matinees, there will be a special Christmas afternoon performance Monday, all of which are at special prices.

The Columbia.
The attraction at the Columbia Theater next week, beginning with a special Christmas matinee Monday, will be America's greatest emotional actress, Helen Ware, who is making her first tour as a star, under the management of Henry B. Harris. The play which is enabling this clever young actress to enhance the wonderful impression she created by her portrayal of Annie Jeffries in "The Third Degree," is "The Deserter," a military play by Robert Peyton Carter and Anna Alice Chapin, which enjoyed a successful engagement at the Hudson Theater, New York, where it ran for 100 nights. The story is told in a prologue and four acts. The original production and cast will be the same here as during its run in New York. In addition to Miss Ware, the company numbers such well-known and capable players as Orme Caldwell, Lotta Lintlich, Howard Hall, Frederick Truesdell, Isabel Garrison, John Charles, James J. Ryan, Lawrence Sheehan, Edward C. Howard, and Eleanor Stuart.

Chase's.
Chase's next week will let Christmas melody and jollity abound in greater measure than ever before, and the laughable bill which will be submitted has resulted from months of previous consideration and preparation, for the big and little folks of Washington have come to look upon Chase's as an indispensable feature of the Yuletide merriment.

In the fore will be the recent New York vaudeville hits, Bert Kalmar and Jessie Brown. They will appear in their characteristic blend of comedy and music, which strikes a new note of novelty and originality, introducing "May and December," "Bugs," "At MacGregor's Scotch High-ball," "That's Right; No, That's Wrong," and other departures from the beaten path of the past. The supplementary leading attraction will be the George B. Reno company, in their musical military fol-de-rol, entitled "The Militant Army." Third in the line of laughable importance will be Charles P. Semon, an eccentric comedian whose amusing eccentricities long ago made him exceptionally popular with the votaries of vaudeville. Mr. Semon is known the vaudeville world over as "The Narrow Fellow," and he will offer his most original musical tomfoolery and witty drollery. Another number will represent foreign novelties in fuller degree than any other seen here in seasons gone by. It is Herr Herzog's Eight Royal Trakhees, horses, from the same stock as in the Imperial German stables. Their drilling is wholly along military lines, and in this respect they are said to excel in obedience and execution the famous trained horses of the Italian cavalry. Edwards, Van, and Tierney, three clever, versatile singing comedians, will inject ginger and jollity into the bill by means of their catchy songs, which they are said to deliver with infectiously funny comedy. "Artistic Oddities" is the name of the fanciful feature which will be added by Harry Fox and the Millership sisters. Fred St. Onge and company are another mirthfully beguiling offering, and the pictorial number will show "A Honey-moon Trip from Canada to Hongkong." Following its immutable rule, Chase's will not increase prices at the Christmas matinee.

The Academy.
The theatergoing public who were so well pleased with "The House of a Thousand Candles" are sure to take advantage of the opportunity to witness Mere-

TO-DAY IN HISTORY.

The Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock—December 22.

To-day is the 390th anniversary of the arrival of the little party of Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock in 1620. In the history of the world no little boat load of people accomplished more or contributed more to the civilization than this little band who braved the stormy seas to land in a wilderness in order to escape religious persecution. Mrs. Hemens has beautifully described the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers in poetry:

"The breaking waves dashed high,
On a steep and rock-bound coast,
And the woods against a stormy sky
Their giant branches tossed,
And the heavy night hung dark:
The hills all waters o'er,
Where a band of exiles moored their bark
On the wild New England shore."

Certainly the records of no such small band of people have been better or more carefully kept, and the fact that millions, perhaps, claim to trace their ancestry to the passengers of the Mayflower bears eloquent witness to the honor the world bestows upon the little band of devout religionists.

The story of the Mayflower looms larger and larger with each receding year. Passing the things which other adventurers of the time sought, the Pilgrims went out into the wilderness to be alone with God.

The determination of the Pilgrims to make their history-affecting voyage to Plymouth Rock was largely a matter of chance. An independent church, composed mainly of simple country folk, was formed in 1606 in Scrooby, Nottinghamshire. At its head was John Robinson, the pastor, of whom it has been said it was hard to judge which was the more delighted—him in having such a people, or they in having such a pastor. William Brewster, who was postmaster at Scrooby, was a member, and so was William Bradford, afterward governor of the colony at Plymouth and the historian of the Pilgrims.

Persecutions at the hands of the King's officers followed the organization of the church. One attempt to flee was frustrated, but after a second attempt they were able to get to Holland, where they settled at Leyden in 1609.

For eleven years they prospered, and their numbers increased to 100 souls. But their surroundings were not congenial, and the question of moving to America came up. The casualties of the seas, the length of the voyage, the miseries of the land, the cruelty of the savages, the expense of the outfit, the ill-

dith Nicholson's latest book play, "The Port of Missing Men," which comes to the Academy next week, opening with a special holiday matinee on Monday. The play is a stirring romance of the present day, written in a style that is both pleasing and palatable, and contains an air of mystery that is most exciting. A good, clean drama, and should be seen by every lover of high class romance. It was while tramping through the Virginia mountains near Lexington that Mr. Nicholson conceived the idea of writing "The Port of Missing Men." He was forced to take lodging for the night in a mountain cabin during a terrific thunder storm, and the first half dozen pages of the book were written on some scraps of wrapping paper he found lying on a shelf in the cabin kitchen, by the light of a single candle. The storm seemed to be in the third act of the play is considered marvelously realistic.

Princeton Glee Club.
The Princeton University Glee, Banjo, and Mandolin Clubs will give a novel concert at the New Willard this evening. Besides an unusual variety of musical selections, there will be introduced bits of comedy and clog dancing. Myron Melvin Parker, 12, of Washington, is one of the dancers. The clubs are taking an extended tour of the country, and the graduates compose the party. They will give concerts at Baltimore, Washington, Wilmington, N. C.; Augusta, Ga.; Atlanta, Ga.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Savannah, Ga.; Charleston, S. C.; and Richmond, Va.

The Gayety.
"The Queen of the Jardin de Paris," who come to the Gayety Theater, beginning next week have been going on at a record pace all season. There is the strongest kind of a cast, a host of pretty girls that seem to enjoy all they are doing, and a score of special features that occur in rapid succession. Messrs. Jacobs and Jermon have been fortunate in securing the services of Miss Adeline Routin, an operatic soloist, with a voice that, for range, sweetness, and purity, is seldom heard here. Others prominent in the company are Harry Koler, Signor B. Mykoff and Krenova, the noted French pianist, and whirlwind dancers; Joe Phillips, John Fields, Eva Van Osten, Edna Gill, and a magnificent French ball, danced by thirty handsome women, with the Orpheum Comedy Four as a special feature.

The Casino.
An interesting holiday bill has been arranged for vaudeville patrons of the Casino Theater next week. The feature of the programme will be the appearance of Flint, George and company in a comedy sketch entitled, "A Midnight Mishap," the great Bandini, a novelty juggler who handles such things as wheelbarrows in the air as neatly as some juggler with plates, hats, &c.; the Three English Roses in an acrobatic dancing act; Kilron and Moore, singing and talking forward to wit interest, for the Yale boys scored a success here last winter in "London Assurance."

The Plaza.
"The Red Cross Seal," an especially interesting story written around the selection for a design of the new famous Red Cross stamp, which is so conspicuous at this time, will be given to-day. This picture was most highly recommended by the recent American civic convention. "White Roses," shown for the first time in any theater, is an unusually good biograph picture, and is followed by still another biograph subject, "The Recreation of an Heiress." With the regular change of song selection Messrs. Harkins and Wallace continue.

PROMINENT MASON DIES.
Armat Stoddart, of Grand Lodge, Yields to Heart Disease.

Armat Stoddart, a prominent master Mason and librarian of the Grand Lodge, F. A. M., died at his home, 2464 Fourteenth street northwest, yesterday morning. Death was due to heart disease.

success of other colonies, and their own sad experience were reasons urged against going to America. But the advocates of the venture prevailed, and, having decided to go somewhere, where should it be?

Some favored Guiana, "whose rich feet were mines of gold and whose forehead knocked against the roof of the stars." Others favored Virginia, and in due time "Virginia" was decided upon. The proceedings that finally ended in the chartering of the Speedwell, and afterward the Mayflower, were undertaken, and, after many adventures, financial, religious, seafaring, of every kind, December 22, 1620, saw them landed on "Virginia" soil, that turned out to be Massachusetts.

The Pilgrims, upon landing, gave the name Plymouth to the colony, in memory of the hospitalities which the company had received at the last English port from which they sailed. It was a gloomy Christmas period for the wanderers. Thousands of miles from home, "on the wild New England shore," with snow more than knee deep and no shelter anywhere, no sadder Christmas could possibly be pictured. But they were of the sternest stuff and set at work at once to make themselves as comfortable as possible under the circumstances. By the time spring came a south wind had brought warm and fair weather; the birds sang in the woods more pleasantly, and there was unusual cheerfulness about the little colony. When, in April, the Mayflower was dispatched to England, not one of the Pilgrims were ready or willing to return. Just before the following autumn a new colony of emigrants arrived, and everything was progressing to the satisfaction of the growing Pilgrim band.

December 22, 1601, occurred the battle of Kinsale; in 1802 the Americans took possession of Louisiana; in 1807 the embargo act was passed, prohibiting foreign commerce, and in 1847 Lincoln introduced his "spot" resolution in Congress. To-day is the birthday of James E. Oglethorpe, founder of Georgia; John William Elbery, American statesman (1827); George W. Crawford, Secretary of War under Taylor (1839); Franz Abt, composer (1819); Brig. Gen. J. K. F. Mansfield (1809); Thomas Wentworth Higginson, author (1825); Hezekiah Butterworth, editor and author (1838); and Orie Read, journalist and author (1852). To-day in 89 A. D. the Emperor Vitellius was beheaded, at Rome; Sir Philip Francis died (1818), and Dr. James Cowles Prichard, distinguished ethnologist, died (1843).

dance, the real craze among the dancing folk of the Capital City this year, will have a prominent place on the program.

The Lyceum.
Patrons of the New Lyceum Theater have a rare treat in store for them during the coming week, for "The Rollickers" are coming to town. The show is equipped with everything new and bright, with hosts of pretty girls, quaint comedians, and singers who can sing. Miss Alice Maude Poole will show a wonderful array of costumes. Clem Bevis, "Rube" impersonator; Sam Goldman, comedian; Nadell and Bell, and Cole and Warner are among the many who go to make up a great bill.

The Cosmos.
The great popularity of "Noodles" Fagan, who is deservedly the headline of the Cosmos bill, has prompted the management to continue the engagement, and "Noodles" will again head the bill for the last three days. Noodles is the biggest hit the Cosmos has ever played. Among the new acts to be seen are Fagg and White in a "Bit of Africanology." Charles Banks will be a feature in "The Bachelor Girl." This character should be recognized by many friends who know it in motion pictures. Lazelle Slatter, "Lazelle Slatter," a comedy duo under a novelty dancing number, and singing act, and Arthur Krona, juggler and comedian, will complete the show.

The Avenue Grand.
As the attraction that will inaugurate the new policy at the Avenue Grand this afternoon, Manager Leonard has booked a strong array of vaudeville talent. Raymond, Leighton and Moore, the travesty artists, fresh from a successful tour of the music halls of Europe, will be seen in their latest comedy success. Anadell and Davenport have a pleasant little comedy sketch, Geeham. Greenwood and vocalists, Lambert and Williams, dancers; Robert McDonald, the mischief comedian; Cole and Hastings, the dramatic players, and three full reels of motion pictures will round out the bill. Beginning this afternoon, the new policy at the Avenue Grand goes into effect. The United Booking Office of New York City will furnish the programme for this house. One show will be given each afternoon. At the night performances the prices will be 20 and 30 cents. The programme will be changed Mondays and Thursdays.

Yale Dramatic Association.
The Yale University Dramatic Association will give a performance of "The Fan" at the Columbia Theater Friday afternoon, December 30. This famous Italian comedy by Carlo Goldoni has been translated for the use of the Yale boys by Prof. Kenneth McKenzie, of the Yale faculty. The coming club is being looked forward to with interest, for the Yale boys scored a success here last winter in "London Assurance."

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TRIES TO PICK LOCK

Armstrong's Attempt to Escape Is Frustrated.

CAUGHT IN ACT BY OFFICER

Story of Effort of Alleged Instigator of Plot to Blackmail Merchant to Escape from Cell on Night of His Arrest Becomes Known—Identified by Woman as Richmond Robber.

The story of how Alton Armstrong, twenty years old, one of the four alleged blackmailers accused by Harry Rosenthal, a young sporting goods dealer, made a last effort to escape the clutches of the law by picking a lock in his cell in the Eighth precinct station after his arrest in the Cairo apartments the night of December 14 became known last night.

That Armstrong did not succeed in his attempt to gain his freedom was due to the watchfulness of Desk Sergeant Turner, of the Eighth precinct station, who discovered the prisoner at work on the lock while making an inspection of the cellroom. Turner crept to the cell door and caught Armstrong in the act, and then accused the prisoner, who did not deny that he had been at work for several hours.

Armstrong, it will be recalled, was arrested in the Cairo with Benjamin Knott by Detectives Daur and Cornwall. The detectives escorted the prisoners to the Eighth precinct station and left for Takoma, D. C., where they arrested Mrs. Florence Bennett Knott, who was waiting for husband, James Bailey Knott.

Armstrong and Benjamin Knott were searched and locked in separate cells, the detectives warning the stationkeeper that the prisoners were dangerous men and might attempt a dash for freedom. Armstrong was locked in cell No. 5 shortly before noon, the policeman who had searched him being certain that the prisoner had nothing in his pockets which might be of aid in an effort to escape.

The prisoners were visited several times during the afternoon, but there was nothing in their actions to excite suspicion. Shortly before 6 o'clock Desk Sergeant Turner went to the door of the cellroom and stood there a few minutes listening to see if all was well with the prisoners. Turner heard a slight noise, which at once aroused his suspicions. He unlocked the cell door without making a noise and tiptoed along the corridor of the cell until he was within a few feet of the cell occupied by Armstrong.

Turner heard a peculiar noise, and after listening a few minutes suddenly stepped before the cell door and confronted Armstrong.

Detected at Work.
"Caught in the act, eh?" said Turner. "It's all off, I suppose," replied Armstrong, sinking to the cell bench with a sigh of resignation.

Turner then examined the lock. In the keyhole was a short piece of strong steel, peculiarly constructed and especially adapted to opening a lock. The fastening was a Yale lock, which explains why Armstrong had not forced it before being discovered. Turner tried to extract the piece of steel, but it was wedged in the keyhole so tightly that the desk sergeant had to work for an hour before he could get it out.

"Where did you get this steel?" Turner asked the prisoner.

"Oh, it was in my coat," replied Armstrong.

"Didn't you know you had to unlock the door to the cellroom after you had picked this lock?" queried the desk sergeant.

"If I could have gotten out of this cell, I'd have got out of the cellroom, all right," said Armstrong with a laugh.

The police believe Armstrong had planned to conceal himself near the door of the cellroom and lay in wait until the door was opened. Then he could have suddenly attacked whoever opened the door, with chances of overcoming the policeman and escaping from the station before its occupants realized what was happening.

When Lieut. Judge was informed of Armstrong's attempted escape, he ordered that the prisoner be kept under surveillance and a policeman was stationed at the door of Armstrong's cell.

Guards at the District jail, where Armstrong is now a prisoner, awaiting his release on bond, are taking no chances of allowing the man to make an effort to escape. He is probably the most carefully watched prisoner in the jail.

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RIFLE TROPHIES PRESENTED

High School Marksmen Are Given Medals Won in Competition.

Many Distinguished Men Among Speakers—N. W. Miller Wins Secretary of War Cup.

The prizes and trophies won in the recent rifle shooting competition of the Washington high schools were presented to the boys who won them, at the McKinley Manual Training School yesterday morning, by Dr. George M. Myers, principal. Dr. Myers presided over the assembly. Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, Chief of Staff, U. S. A., made an address and presented the winning team of the McKinley school with the championship cup and medals. He also presented N. W. Miller, of Central High School, with the Secretary of War Cup, while Mr. Gude, president of the Chamber of Commerce, presented him with the Chamber of Commerce Medal.

Lieut. Gen. John C. Bates, president of the National Rifle Association, presented the Business High School team with the N. R. A. Cup, and medals to the individual members of the team. The members of Company "B," Central, were next to be called to the platform, and they were presented with the Hibbs Cup and medals.

The following boys received medals for making the highest score in their respective schools: L. Shore, of Business; N. W. Miller, of Central; William Brooks, of Western, and J. T. Hutchinson, of Technical. The following boys were presented with "junior marksmen" medals: N. W. Miller, of Central; J. T. Hutchinson, of Technical; W. G. Wells, of Technical; G. L. Hurler, of Technical; E. B. Thomas, of Technical, and L. Shore, of Business.

Commissioner Johnstone was then introduced and made a great speech. The other men who were present on the platform were: Mr. Alexander T. Stuart, superintendent of schools; Mr. P. M. Hughes, assistant superintendent of schools; Lieut. Albert S. Jones, secretary of the National Rifle Association; Dr. W. B. Hudson, physical director of schools; Dr. W. R. Phelps, Central High School; Capt. Sheridan Ferrie, Lieut. Thomas F. MacAnally, D. C. N. G., and Capt. Julian R. Lindsay, Fifteenth United States Cavalry.

Asks for Jury Trial.
Pleading not guilty to a charge of attempting to defraud the Washington Gaslight Company, Andrew Beach, who was arrested in his hotel near North Capitol and E streets northwest yesterday, demanded a trial by jury when arraigned before Judge Mulvihill in Police Court. It is related that Beach used an ingenious device for piping gas into the hotel without the flow being registered on the meter.

Sentenced for Theft of Cable.
William Johnson, colored, twenty-three years old, of Jackson's alley, was sentenced to sixty days in the workhouse in the Police Court yesterday for stealing cable belonging to the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company.

ADVERTISING TALKS.

WRITTEN BY WILLIAM C. FREEMAN.

At the November meeting of the AD MEN'S LEAGUE in New York the speakers discussed the relationship between the SALES and ADVERTISING DEPARTMENTS of a business.

All of the speakers agreed upon one point—that THERE WAS ALWAYS A BETTER SALE FOR AN ADVERTISED PRODUCT.

Two of the speakers spoke from the MANUFACTURER'S STANDPOINT. They acknowledged that SINCE ADVERTISING HAD BECOME A FACTOR IN THE MANUFACTURING BUSINESS, the articles manufactured could be sold easier through publicity than through the old form of salesmanship, and that there was LESS DIFFICULTY IN MAINTAINING THE PRICE UNIVERSALLY.

The other two speakers talked from the retail standpoint. One, a retailer of some importance—said it was much easier to sell an article WITH A GOOD NAME AND THAT WAS ADVERTISED, than an unadvertised article—and, furthermore, that the PUBLIC DID NOT EVER EXPECT THEM TO CUT THE PRICE OF AN ADVERTISED ARTICLE.

There is no question about the power that is back of a good article when it is talked about in the newspapers. There is no question about the RESPONSE TO THE ADVERTISEMENTS OF A GOOD ARTICLE in good newspapers.

The retailer who spoke on this occasion (TO BE CONTINUED)

EXPLOSION ON WAR SHIP.
Fireman on the Michigan So Badly Burned He Dies as Result.

An explosion of coal gas in the bunkers of the battle ship Michigan, of the Atlantic fleet, was reported to the Navy Department yesterday by Rear Admiral Seaton Schroeder, U. S. N., commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet. Benjamin J. McCleary, a second-class fireman, was badly burned, and died a few hours later. He was a native of Philadelphia, where his mother, Mrs. Mary E. McCleary, resides at 1222 South Forty-ninth street. McCleary had been in the service for about two years.

This is the second accident of this nature on the vessels of the Atlantic fleet within the last few weeks. A similar explosion occurred on the North Dakota a few days ago, killing a coal passer.

MEETING OF MOTHERS' CLUB.
Dr. Kress Gives Address on Tobacco's Effect on Boys.

The Mothers' Club, of the W. C. T. U., met yesterday afternoon at headquarters, 522 Sixth street northwest, and were the guests of the North Capitol Union, Mrs. Theodore T. Moore being the hostess. Mrs. Edward E. Richardson, president of the club, occupied the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. Fred Beal, evangelistic superintendent. Dr. Kress, of the Washington Sanitarium, gave an address, "The Effect of Cigarettes and Tobacco Upon the Boy." Miss Edith Maddox recited "Tabitha Tubs," and a solo, "Some of These Days," was given by Mrs. Charles Liner, accompanied by Miss Edith Lee. Refreshments were served.

Largest Morning Circulation.